Washington - Congresswoman Linda Sánchez today congratulated the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on nearly a century of work protecting and upholding the civil rights of all Americans.

Founded on February 12, 1909 the NAACP's legacy includes distinguished leaders and historic events. NAACP members have included civil rights giants such as co-founder Ida Wells, Rosa Parks and Medgar Evers. Thurgood Marshall served as special counsel for the NAACP when he argued the historic U.S. Supreme Court case of Brown V. Board of Education, a landmark victory for equality that outlawed segregation in schools.

"The NAACP has carried the torch for civil rights in this country" said Congresswoman Sánchez. "As we celebrate Black History Month, I am proud to honor them for that work."

Last month, Congresswoman Sánchez received a perfect score from the NAACP in its most recent Legislative Report Card. The group cited her leadership on issues including the renewal of the landmark Voting Rights Act, promotion of environmental justice, and her opposition to the Central American Free Trade Agreement.

"As we see things like the difficult rebuilding of the Gulf Coast in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, we are reminded that the work of the NAACP is still needed," said Congresswoman Sánchez. "I will continue to work with the NAACP on the issues that affect us all."